

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

MICHAEL PICKENS,

Plaintiff,

v.

PORTFOLIO RECOVERY
ASSOCIATES, LLC,

Defendant.

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CASE NO. 20-1622

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on this date, Defendant Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC hereby removes the above-captioned matter to this Court from the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania and in support thereof avers as follows:

1. Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC. is a defendant in a civil action originally filed on June 3, 2020 in the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania titled *Michael Pickens v. Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC* and docketed to Case No. GD-20-006434.
2. The removal is timely under 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b). PRA received service of Plaintiff's Complaint by certified mail on October 13, 2020.
3. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446, attached here as Exhibit A are copies of all process, pleadings, and orders filed in the state court action.

4. The District Court¹ has original jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331, in that Plaintiff has filed claims against PRA alleging violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, *et seq.*

5. On this date, PRA has provided notice of this Removal to counsel for Plaintiff and to the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania.

WHEREFORE, Defendant Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC respectfully removes this case to the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

Respectfully submitted,

MESSER STRICKLER, LTD.

By: /s/ Lauren M. Burnette
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Counsel for Defendant

Dated: October 26, 2020

¹ Plaintiff commenced this claim in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania notwithstanding the fact that his alleged causes of action arose in York County, Pennsylvania which lies within jurisdiction of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. *See* Plaintiff's Complaint, ¶ 1.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on October 26, 2020, a true copy of the foregoing document was served as follows:

Via Email and US Mail Postage Prepaid

Joshua P. Ward
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Counsel for Plaintiff

Via Electronic Filing

Court of Common Pleas
Allegheny County
414 Grant St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

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